



# AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE OVERVIEW

GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC PANEL MEETING

NOVEMBER, 2024

# **AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE**

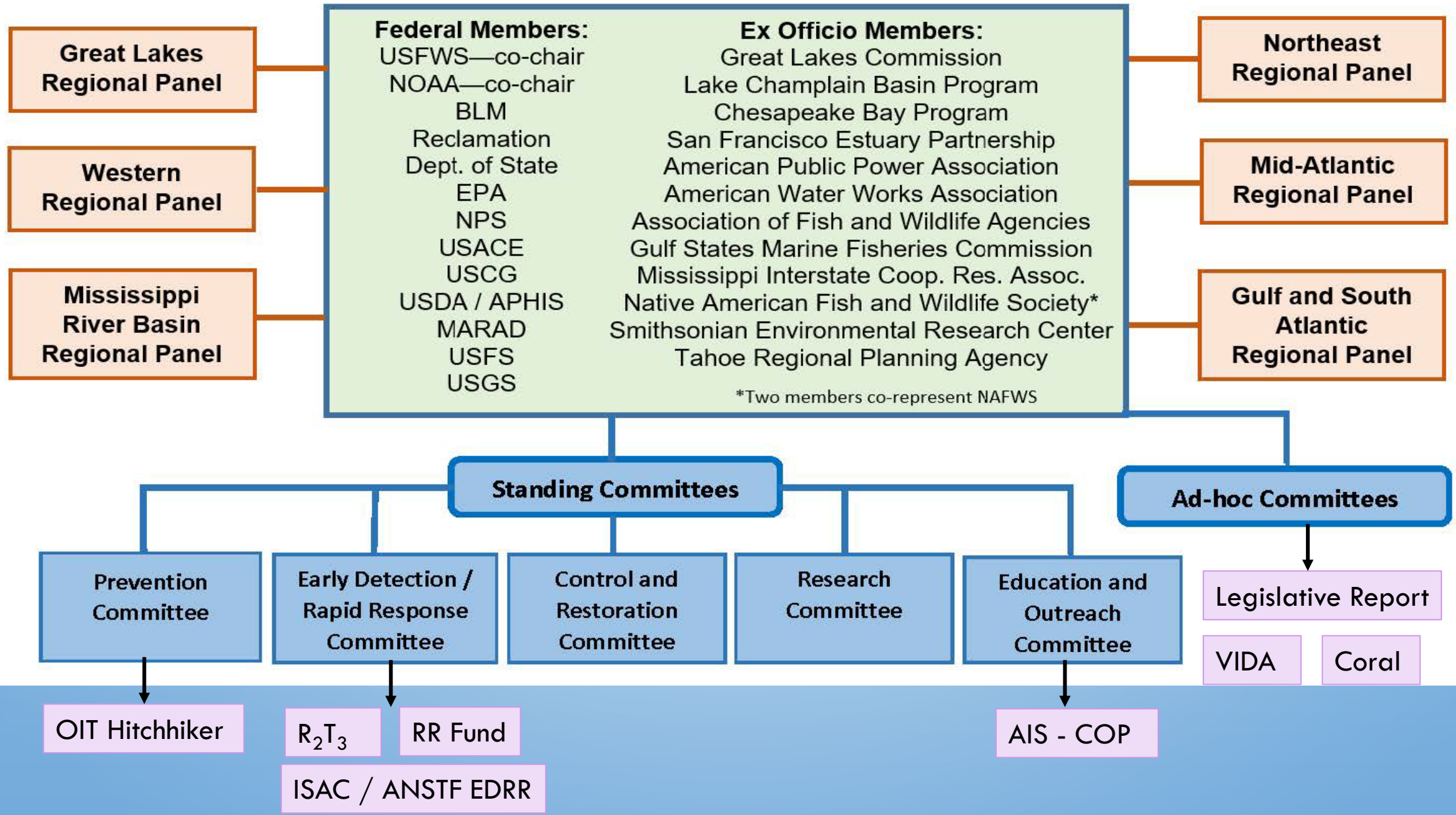
**The only Federally-mandated intergovernmental organization solely dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic invasive species.**

**ESTABLISHED** by Congress with the passage of NANPCA in 1990 and reauthorized with the passage of the NISA in 1996.

**MISSION:** Develop and implement a program for waters of the United States to prevent the introduction and dispersal of ANS; to monitor, control and study such species; and to disseminate related information.

**STRUCTURE:** Composed of 13 Federal, 13 ex-officio members, 6 Regional Panels, several Sub-committees

# Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Structure





# Status of State ANS Management Plans

(46 Approved Plans - 43 State, and 3 Interstate)



May, 2024

Graphics by Don MacLean, USFWS

**Authorized: \$4M;**

FY 15: \$1M

FY 16 - 19: \$2M

FY 20: \$3.8 M

FY21 - 22: \$4.084M;

45 plans; ~\$92K/plan

# NOVEMBER ANSTF MEETING DECISIONAL ITEMS

ANS Task Force approved the Delaware State ANS Management Plan.

The ANS Task Force approved the draft New Zealand MudSnail Management Plan to be posted in the Federal Register for public comment.

The ANS Task Force conditionally approved the Recommendations from the Joint Invasive Species Advisory Committee / ANS Task Force Early Detection Rapid Response Framework Implementation Work Group, pending inclusion of comments from ANS Task Force members.

# MAY ANSTF MEETING ACTION ITEMS

The Early Detection Rapid Response Subcommittee Chair will distribute the Rapid Response Template to ANS Task Force members and regional panels for comment.

The Outreach Subcommittee will develop guidance on best practices for inclusive language use within invasive species management. The Subcommittee will report on progress at the next meeting.

ANS Task Force members and Regional Panels should submit any additional input into the FWS Fish and Aquatic Conservation program's strategic plan using [fisheries@fws.gov](mailto:fisheries@fws.gov).

The Executive Secretary will work with Moss Ball After Action Report leads to complete a summary of the comprehensive report and distribute it for ANS Task Force Review.

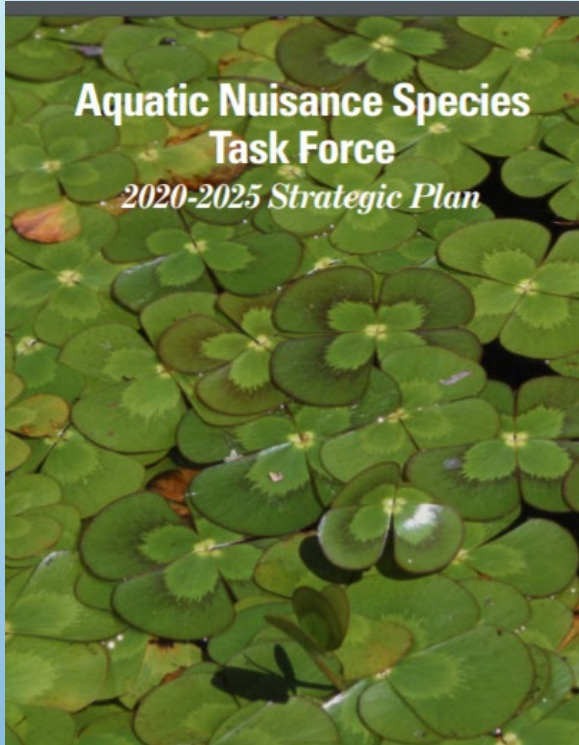
# MAY ANSTF MEETING ACTION ITEMS







The Rapid Response Fund Working Group will reconvene to consider modifications to more efficiently streamline the review process, particularly for proposals that address national priorities or have a strong sense of urgency.

The Executive Secretary will schedule a regional panel principal meeting to discuss the Northeast panel recommendation on multi-state coordination and potential next steps for the Ruffe Management Plan.

The Control Subcommittee will distribute the Combined Plan Decision Making Guidance to the ANS Task Force and Regional Panels for review.

# ANS TASK FORCE STRATEGIC PLAN



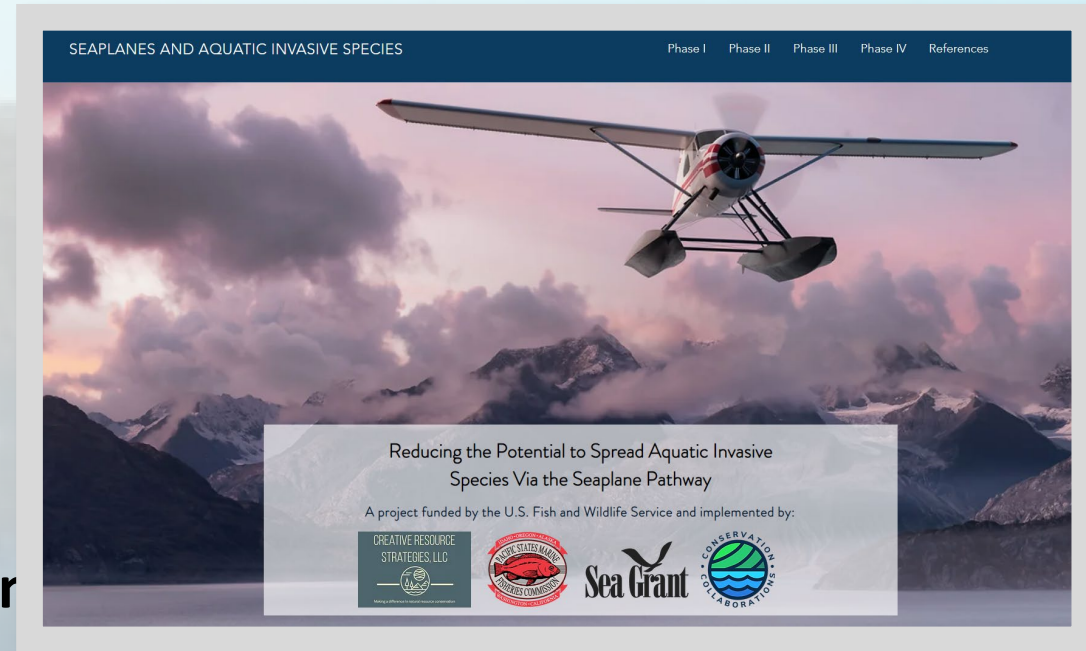
 <b>COORDINATION</b> Coordinate a national ANS program for waters of the United States	 <b>CONTROL &amp; RESTORATION</b> Contain and control established ANS and restore native species and ecosystems
 <b>PREVENTION</b> Prevent the establishment and spread of existing ANS	 <b>RESEARCH</b> Facilitate research on ANS threats, impacts, and controls
 <b>EARLY DETECTION &amp; RAPID RESPONSE</b> Identify and respond to new species detections in a timely manner to prevent their establishment and spread	 <b>OUTREACH &amp; EDUCATION</b> Conduct outreach and education to increase awareness concerning the threats of ANS



# COMPLETED OR ONGOING ANSTF WORK

## Implementation of 2024 Subcommittee Work Plans (Prevention, EDRR, Control, Outreach, Research)

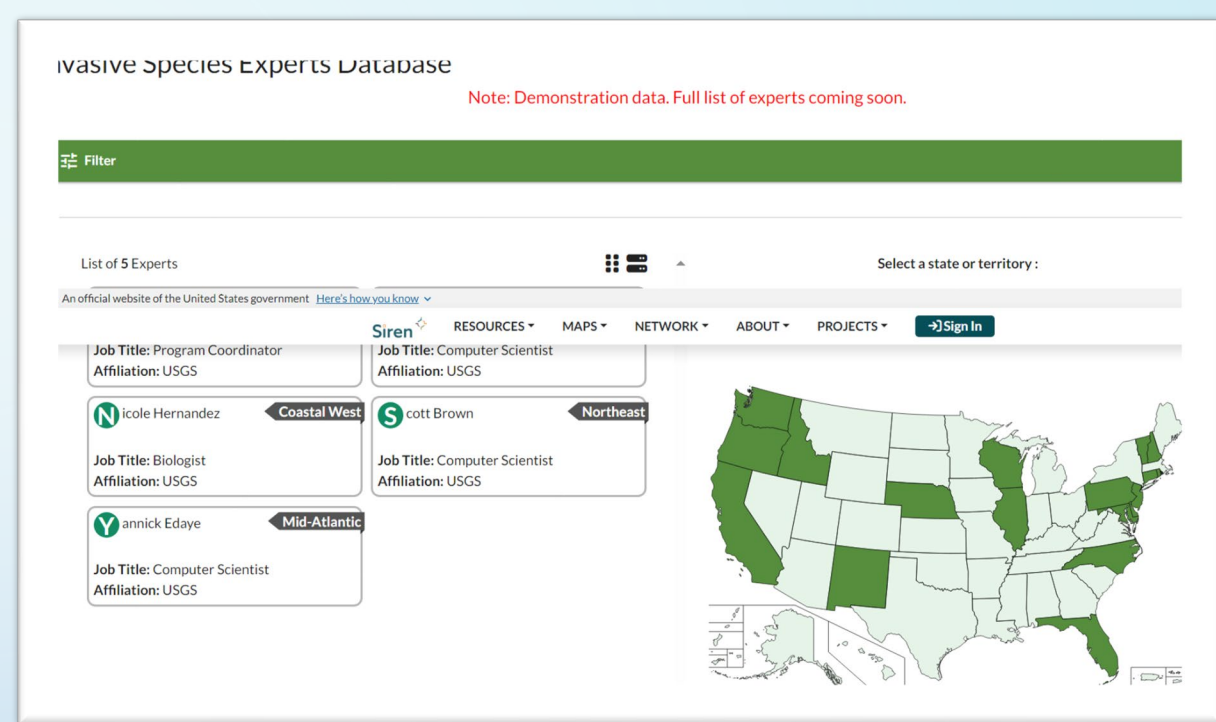
- **Advising a Sea Plane / AIS Risk Analysis**
  - <https://www.seaplanesandais.com/>
- **Revising the New Zealand Mudsail Management Plan**
  - Approved for Public Comment - November 2024
- **Decision-making Process for Approval to Develop new Species Control and Management Plans**
  - Awaiting ANSTF comment
- **National Outreach Summit**
  - Held October 1, 2024 in Missoula, MT
- **Managing SAH Website / Outreach CoP**



# COMPLETED OR ONGOING ANSTF WORK

## Implementation of 2024 Subcommittee Work Plans:

- **Completing Rapid Response Plan Template**
  - Awaiting ANSTF comment
- **Modernizing and expanding the utility of the Invasive Species Experts Database**
  - Soft Launch with ANSTF and Regional Panel Members
  - Incorporated in Siren: [invasivespecies.gov/siren](https://invasivespecies.gov/siren)
- **Joint ANSTF / ISAC working group to provide non-federal input to the National EDRR Framework**
  - Awaiting ANSTF comment
- **Administering a pilot Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species**
  - <https://www.fws.gov/story/rapid-response-fund-aquatic-invasive-species>





# NEW ANSTF ACTIVITIES FOR 2025!

- Assisting USCS in developing a Framework for ANS introduction resulting from Ballast Water discharge
- Invasive Coral Working Group
- Potential Archival of Ruffe Plan
- Develop process to better support and track existing species plans
- Updating the National AIS Research Priorities List
- Implement recommendations from the after-action report on the moss ball response
- Progress Report of AIS Legislative, Programmatic, and Regulatory Gaps
- National AIS Communication Framework and Inclusive Language Guidance
- Habitattitude MOU (PAN / USFWS/ NOAA)
- Return of the ANSTF Newsletter



**THANK YOU!**



**SUSAN PASKO**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE ANS TASK FORCE WEBSITE –**

**[WWW.ANSTASKFORCE.GOV](http://WWW.ANSTASKFORCE.GOV)**